



MUTE SWAN REMOVAL

INFORMATION

Under authority of Act 451 of PA of 1994, as amended.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will assist the public to resolve mute swan conflicts by permitting removal of mute swans as a part of its overall swan management program. The Michigan DNR has established the following guidelines for swan removal.

All circulated petitions or government requests must **clearly** state that it is understood that the swans captured will ultimately be humanely euthanized as a means of removal.

A permit is required to participate in any swan removal.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Permits for swan removal may be issued only to those that meet one or more of the following definitions:

- A government agency request which legally represents the property owners on the subject lake/body of water/site.
- A lake association or lake representative which represents property owners on the subject lake/body of water/site. The Applicant/Permittee will attest that they have in their possession a petition that represents at least 70% of the lakeshore property owners giving approval to conduct the swan removal program on the site, and that, upon request, will provide that petition to the Michigan DNR. The petition submitted will be valid for a 5-year period; however, the **Applicant/Permittee must apply annually for the program.**
- An institution, corporation, or other entity which owns/controls all lands surrounding or containing the subject lake/body of water/site. This can include golf courses, apartments, parks, and recreation areas.
- An individual with sole ownership and control of the subject lake/body of water/site, with no public access, and adjacent uplands.

REQUIREMENTS

As part of the requirements for receiving a permit to remove mute swans, the Applicant/Permittee must agree to the following:

- Applicant/Permittee (or the contractor) agrees to record banded/collared swans captured during round-up.
- Applicant/Permittee (or the contractor) agrees to record the number of mute swans removed, the nest locations, the number of eggs destroyed or removed, and the total hatch for the year shall be submitted to the issuing office of the Michigan DNR within 15 days of management activities by the person(s) to whom the permit was issued.
- In all cases, the Applicant/Permittees must provide all manpower to capture the swans, under procedures prescribed by the Michigan DNR, or the Applicant/Permittee may contract the services of a federal and state licensed private animal control company. The Applicant/Permittee must bear all costs of the capture, euthanasia, and any subsequent removal operations. All Applicant/Permittees who have contracted with a private licensed animal control company must provide the Michigan DNR the name of the company prior to the permit being issued.
- Under no condition will captured mute swans be released back into the wild in Michigan.
- Mute swans euthanized by approved methods must be incinerated, buried, or placed in a landfill according to federal, state, and local regulations.